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**INTERPRETATION CE REQUIREMENTS
FOR MASSACHUSETTS OPTOMETRISTS**

Pursuant to 246 CMR 2.01(3)(a)(2), "[n]o more than six Continuing Education Hours per renewal period will be credited for distance based learning Continuing Education Courses."

It is the interpretation of the Board that for purposes of 246 CMR, "distance based" means a separation between an instructor and student, this separation being physical AND temporal (aka time). Accordingly, a "distance based learning Continuing Education Course" is an online or correspondence course in which students receive instruction in an asynchronous manner, such as by reading content, observing pre-recorded presentations, or otherwise interacting with on-demand multimedia. Conversely, a course that utilizes a live interaction between an instructor and students, even if the instructor and students are not physically in the same location, is NOT "distance based" for purposes of 246 CMR. Such courses are thus not subject to the limitations of 246 CMR 2.01(3)(a)(2). The Board notes that this requirement does not prohibit an otherwise "live" continuing education class from utilizing videos or other multimedia presentations as part of the course so long as the majority of the class is a real-time collaboration between instructor and students.

